

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 EB-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-01

DLOS-03 SWF-01 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-07 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-14 USIA-04 DRC-01 /073 W

----- 060485

R 091911Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5342

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7386

FROM EMBASSY DOHA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, QA, BA, KU, MU, TC

SUBJECT: QATAR MAY ESTABLISH NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE.

REF: KUWAIT 1953

1. GOQ OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US AMIR IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF QATAR NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE AS ALTERNATIVE TO PARTICIPATION IN PROPOSED GULF SHIPPING COMPANY (REFTEL). ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL, ALCAN (CANADA) HAS COMPLETED FIRST STAGE OF FEASIBILITY STUDY AND IS NOW PREPARING RECOMMENDATIONS ON SCOPE OF OPERATIONS AND TYPE AND SIZE OF SHIPS THAT SHOULD BE PURCHASED.

2. OFFICIAL SAID THAT BOTH QTE FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL UNQTE ISSUES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR LACK OF PROGRESS TOWARD FORMATION OF GULF SHIPPING COMPANY. PRINCIPAL STUMBLING
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BLOCK STILL SEEMS TO BE OPPOSITION ON PART OF LOWER GULF

STATES TO KUWAITI PARTICIPATION.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION BY EMBOFF, OFFICIAL SAID THAT AMIR HAS NOT COMMITTED HIMSELF TO FORMATION OF A NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE NOR HAS HE RULED OUT POSSIBILITY OF QATARI PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL COMPANY. ACCORDING SOURCE, NO DECISION IS LIKELY TO BE MADE UNTIL FEASIBILITY STUDY IS COMPLETED SEVERAL MONTHS FROM NOW.
KUBISCH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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